

**Reduced Networking Interrupts**

5

**ABSTRACT**

An apparatus and method for reducing operating system interrupts by queuing incoming network traffic units received by a network interface, where said units are received without interrupting a host environment on receiving queued units. However, if a predetermined number of received units have a same origin, then the host environment is interrupted as subsequent network traffic units are received by the network interface, until a predetermined number of network traffic units are subsequently received from a different origin. Notwithstanding queuing incoming network traffic units, the host environment is interrupted on expiration of a timeout period, or if a predetermined number of units have been queued.